Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/771,298	NOMURA ET AL.	an
	Examiner	Art Unit	(3)
	Ricky L. Mack	2873	
The MAILING DATE of this communication appearance All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT R of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED or other appropriate comming IGHTS. This application is	in this application. If not included nunication will be mailed in due c	d ourse. THIS
1. This communication is responsive to			
2. ☑ The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-13</u> .			
3. \boxtimes The drawings filed on <u>05 February 2004</u> are accepted by the second sec	he Examiner.		
4. ☑ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority un a) ☑ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the: 1. ☑ Certified copies of the priority documents have	e been received.		
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have	• •		6
 Copies of the certified copies of the priority do International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). 	cuments have been receive	ed in this national stage applicati	on from the
* Certified copies not received:			
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONN THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE. 5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subm	MENT of this application. itted. Note the attached EX	(AMINER'S AMENDMENT or NO	
INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give 6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must		or declaration is deficient.	
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers		w (PTO-948) attached	•
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date		(
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner' Paper No./Mail Date		or in the Office action of	
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1 each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in t	.84(c)) should be written on he header according to 37 C	the drawings in the front (not the b FR 1.121(d).	oack) of
 DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the depo attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT 			ote the
Attachment(s) 1. ☑ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5. ☐ Notice of I	nformal Patent Application (PTO	-152)
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	6. Interview 8	Summary (PTO-413), ./Mail Date	·
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/0 Paper No./Mail Date 0504	08), 7. ☐ Examiner's	s Amendment/Comment	
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit	_	s Statement of Reasons for Allov	vance
of Biological Material	9.		CK LHER
U.S. Datent and Trademore Office		RICKY L. MA PRIMARY EXAM	CK Lner

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REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 1-13 have been allowed.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art taken either singularly or in combination fails to anticipate or fairly suggest the limitations of the independent claim(s), in such a manner that a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103 would be proper. The prior art fails to teach a combination of all the claimed features as presented in claim(s) 1-13, wherein a lens barrel comprises a first lens frame including an outer ring portion, an outer ring portion and a flange wall; a cam ring; a second lens frame; a first cam groove formed on the outer surface of the cam ring; a second cam groove formed on the inner surface of the cam ring; a linear guide ring; and a linear guide mechanism, provided between the inner ringer portion of the first lens frame and the second lens frame, for guiding the second lens frame linearly along the optical axis, as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following references have been cited for disclosing a lens barrel having a cam ring and a linear driven component, but these references do not disclose the limitation of the

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present invention as claimed: Yamazaki et al. (4993815), Nakayama et al. (5668670 & 6028718), Nomura et al. (6115189) and Mikami (20030147146).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ricky L. Mack whose telephone number is (571) 272-2333. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (6:30 AM to 4:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Georgia Y. Epps can be reached on (571) 272-2328. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Rioky L Mack Primary Examiner Art Unit 2873

RM April 18, 2005